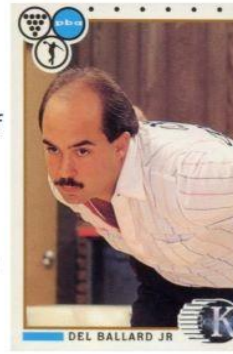


Del Ballard, Jr.

North Central Texas Hall of Fame

Del Ballard, Jr. entered the PBA Tour in 1982 at the age of 19. He won two titles in 1987, including his first major at the U.S. Open Championship which earned him a then-record \$100,000. In 1988, Ballard won his second major, the ABC Masters. (The Masters was not considered a PBA Tour event at the time, but is now recognized as a PBA title and a major). He went on to win two additional majors, the 1989 Firestone Tournament of Champions and the 1993 U.S. Open.



In 1991, he had his most successful year on the tour, winning 4 titles. He won 13 PBA Titles in his career (all between 1987–1993) and has career total earnings over \$1,130,000. He cashed in 259 of 482 tournaments. In 31 TV appearances (the championship round of a Tour event) he had a 30–21 record, with a 216.29 average. Ballard owns 17 PBA regional titles. He was No. 29 on the list of the 50 Greatest Players in PBA History in 2009.

Ballard received an exemption for the 2006–07 PBA tour season, by finishing tenth in the Tour Trials. No longer an active bowler on the standard PBA Tour, Ballard continues to work on tour as a ball rep/coach for Storm, owns multiple pro shops as well as Ballard's Bowling Academy.

He was selected to join the PBA Hall of Fame in 2009, joined the Dallas USBC BA Hall of Fame later that year and was inducted into the Texas State USBC Hall of Fame in 2010.

Ballard is married to Carolyn and has a daughter, Alyssa.

It was announced in August, 2010, that Ballard was battling tonsil cancer. He underwent chemotherapy and radiation treatments at Texas Oncology, an affiliate of Baylor University Medical Center, and prognosis for a full recovery was good. Wanting to turn a negative into a positive, he and wife Carolyn, along with a few friends, got together after one of his treatments and organized the "Ballard vs. The Big C" bowling tournament.

As of 2019, the tournament has raised over \$350,000 which has been donated to Cancer Care Services, Baylor Health Care and the North Texas Laryngectomy Society. Ballard was recognized by the PBA for his efforts, being presented with the PBA Tony Reyes Community Service Award for the 2017 season.

